

SCARY

Monsters

MAGAZINE™

SECOND SCARY ISSUE ! \$ 3.95



THE
MONSTER SQUAD



Glenn Manning, The Amazing Colossal Man returned in 1958 for another AIP movie, WAR OF THE COLOSSAL BEAST. The towering terror from hell returns again in 1992 in The Terrifying Third issue of SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE.

Hello once again and welcome to the second scary issue of SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE. The most common question over the last few months has been, "When is issue #2 coming out?" The most common comment has been, "I'm looking forward to #2." Well, guess what? It's here! I believe we succeeded in stirring some memories up of those good/bad monster movies of the 50's and even made quite a few

people of all ages want to see some of these great movies. My 14 year old son has finally started to watch and enjoy the movies I enjoyed as a kid. Remember, scary monsters are back and SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE has them! So once again journey with us on our quest to find scary monsters!

Bd

SCARY Monsters MAGAZINE™

SECOND SCARY ISSUE

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(All articles written by Dennis Drukenis except where noted.)

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SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE is published 3 times a year by DENNIS DRUKENIS PUBLISHING & MAIL ORDER, INC. 348 Jaclyn P. Street, Berkeley, CA 94709. This is the second scary issue since March 1982 and printed in the 25th by Reflective Arts, Inc. SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE is TM and copyright 1982 by DENNIS DRUKENIS PUBLISHING & MAIL ORDER, INC. All Rights Reserved. Photos used in this magazine are believed to be in the public domain and are used for a nostalgic, historical look at scary monsters. Those photos not in the public domain are copyrighted by their respective owners. Sorry but we can't accept responsibility for any damages, lost time, or other expenses you may incur in attempting to contact the original owner of any photo. We cannot return unused or insufficient postage. It is requested that any work be discussed with the publisher before submission. This magazine is dedicated to you and we encourage letters. All letters received become the property of this magazine and may be published in whole or part and will be considered intended for publication. Support this monster magazine, buy more than one!

SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE SCAREOSOPHY

SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE has been a carefully thought out concept. What you may perceive as flaws or shortcomings were carefully planned ideas and concepts.

To put it in perspective, it wants to combine some of the simple innocence of the 50's and 60's with a little gloss and neon of the 90's. It wants to offer its reader either memories of those favorite monster movies (i.e. "Yes, I remember that monster, he was killed by fire.") or introduce the reader to good/bad scary monster movies from various years.

The magazine is for the baby boomer generation and the young child growing up. There is no age limit.

It is meant to be a fun experience with large photos of scary monsters to look at and basic information on the films. Hopefully, you will like the monsters presented and want to see the films again or for the first time.

We also want to view monsters from all angles; as they appear in films, toys, models, comic books or old monster mags. We do want to limit ourselves to just scary monsters, not slasher movies or gory, horror movies. We want to present scary, perhaps simpler monsters, the guy in the rubber suit or the dinosaur. It doesn't really matter if the movie is from the 50's or the 90's. I have to admit, I'm partial to the movies of the 50's because I grew up watching them on TV in the 60's.

SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE is devoted to scary monsters and wants to bring them back to SCARE YOU!

SCAREMEN





Everything on the lobby card pictured above was in full color except for the giant grasshopper in the background?

The only real way to start and end this issue is at the Beginning... The Beginning of the End.

Last issue's Scary Secret Photo pictured again on page 5 with some added

was of course, **THE BEGINNING OF THE END**. It was correctly identified by Kent Daluga of Zion, Ill., Jeff Kurta of Ironwood, Mi., Scott Doudna of Racine, Wi., Charles Dellavalle of Staten Island, N.Y. and Rick Stoner of E. Lansing, Mi. In addition, a very special thanks to Charles Chavarr of Los Angeles, California who correctly identified the movie and was kind enough to send me the stills pictured on

page 6.

I was fortunate to see this movie once again shortly after issue #1 was printed as I'm sure a lot of you were. It appeared throughout the month of October on AMC, so, we should have received thousands of correct answers but didn't!!!! Maybe, next time!

BEGINNING OF THE END was released in 1957 on a double bill with **THE UNEARTHLY**. This was a AB-PT Picture Corp. released by REPUBLIC and was of course in beautiful black and white.

The action starts off in Southern Illinois and moves



Issue #1's Scary Secret Photo.

to Chicago as giant grasshoppers (locust) destroy the state. Although most critics write this film off as bad and unenjoyable, I've always liked the film because I could relate to it. The movie has always seemed realistic to me because of the location. In fact, the troops were called out from Fort Sheridan to fight the grasshopper menace and that's where my father, other relatives and neighbors worked for many years. Fort Sheridan is still only a few blocks away from my home and Lake Michigan just a few blocks farther east from there. The grasshopper menace seemed real because who as a kid didn't capture, torture and inspect the grasshoppers in their back yards. I did and so did my friends in the neighborhood.

This movie uses film of enlarged actual grasshoppers projected on screens behind the actors or, in one case, lets the grasshoppers crawl around on a photo of the Wrigley Building.

BEGINNING OF THE END was produced and directed by Bert I. Gordon, who later (in 1957) introduced us to **THE CYCLOPS** and **THE AMAZING COLOSSAL MAN** which will be covered in our next issue. It was written by Fred Freiberger and Lester Gorn with special effects by Bert I. Gordon and Flora Gordon.

On Friday, January 3rd, 1992, the CHAMPAIGN-URBANA NEWS-GAZETTE, ETCL section ran an article on the **BEGINNING OF THE END**. The front cover featured a photo of the sign seen in the beginning of the movie, "Ludlow 1, Rantoul 5, Champaign 25", along with a



photo of a giant grasshopper and the headline, "LUDLOW LEVELED BY GIANT INSECTS!" The cover looks great and appears to be a real story at first glance, although perhaps invoking the image of a supermarket tabloid more than a regular newspaper.

Nevertheless giant grasshoppers (male Texas grasshoppers actually) invaded a Hollywood created Illinois and leveled the town of Ludlow. Audrey Ames (Peggy Castle), a reporter with the National Wire Service stumbles upon the missing town of Ludlow. The town of 150 people has completely disappeared. Audrey investigates the possibility of an Atomic installation in the area that could have somehow caused the problem.



GIANT GRASSHOPPERS CRAWL UP THE WRIGLEY BUILDING IN 1957 CHICAGO.

Her investigation leads to a U.S. Department of Agriculture project headed by Ed Wainwright (Peter Graves). Ed and Frank Johnson (Than Wyenn) are involved in enlarging fruit and vegetables to combat world hunger. Audrey and Ed soon meet up with a giant grasshopper and Ed figures out that the grasshoppers ate some of the experimental giant fruit and vegetables. The giant insects continue their destructive ways and make their way to Chicago after the army fails to stop them by using conventional means. The government decides to evacuate Chicago and drop an atomic bomb on the city to end the giant grasshop-

per menace. Luckily, Scientist Ed comes up with a way to save Chicago and the world in the nick of time. The grasshoppers drown in Lake Michigan and the bomber is turned around.

When issue #1 was being printed, I was surprised at the number of people at the plant who saw the Secret Scary Photo and remembered the movie. While these people did not remember the name of the movie, they remembered the grasshoppers and how they were killed. Till the next time giant grasshoppers invade, scary monster movie fans (especially Illinois residents) will remember when it was almost....THE BEGINNING OF THE END.

MONSTER MEMORIES

SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE is proud to present a new feature, MONSTER MEMORIES, written by you the reader. So get out your typewriters, pencils, pens, crayons or 7 and send us your MONSTER MEMORIES.

[SCARY MONSTERS WANTED BY SCARY!]

BY EDWARD VIREO

I'm trembling either behind the couch, or under a theatre seat, with sweaty palms, eyes glazed over in fear while trying to be brave and make another look at the creature that was once again...it's another incredibly "scary monster", either carrying a girl (usually off into the woods somewhere...) or destroying another city with weapons (even) or towing through spaceship levels while mercilessly killing crew members!

As a result of growing up under a steady diet of horrors—*Hi! Flock!* + television shows, magazines (even 7 years, even that other *Twinkie* cover, I was hooked!), movie posters + other monster cards, *Demolition and Aurora* movie kits, yes, I can honestly say "Scary Monsters Haunted My Life!" They're all directly responsible for the way I am now, that sheer terror which seems as appealing to the nearby counter or under my seat is a feeling that I'm consistently trying to recapture. Unfortunately, no longer being an impressionable youth, when I view these same monster movie posters they seem really "gaudy" to me... all I seem to notice are the defects, the monsters look crusty, the situations have, you can see the wires on the show, etc... but when you were seven years old (in 1964) these *Hi! Flock!* scared the bejeus out of you!

Forever seared in my memory is the opening of "Chiller Theatre" here in NY (hosted by Ted Neeley, of course). It featured a montage of clips that went as mailing on a weekly basis: *Tar, Batu and Vampires* walking zombie-like out of the woods... the glam from the beginning of *Attack* of the 50 ft. waves! sticking up a ear like a fly... a phony-looking cut from some George Lucas movie... all this and more going on as the hearing soundtrack from *Night of the Living Dead* (and countless others). Oh, man, it was intense!

Now, on the tube in my bedroom, I'm challenging/conquering the Reich, the ottoman and beasts, the movie-creature, a scuttle of Jonathan Drak (remember that *Heath*!), monster from *Madame Blanche*, the shark monsters, not of this world (the original!), *Alien* without a face... and of course, *Godzilla*, *Muken*, *Godzukiing Kong* (which they ran *once* there, in one of my firsts). In the theatres we watched the Hammer horrors, *Reptilicus*, *Kong*, *Man with the Iron Fists*, *It*, a gullionite, *Shriek*, *Jesus*, *Hyperboreus* (which was begged my out!), the *Magic Carpet*, to *Quazar* (where they gave you glasses to see the monsters)... just to name a few! But the greatest thing in theatres was the Sunday afternoon "spook show". These marathons of nonsense usually consisted of a couple of horror movies, some trailers, a cartoon or two, and a "live show". Playing in a packed house of monster-crazed kids, the live stage shows always included some second-rate magicians performing cheap tricks with audience participation (which always included some show prizes). After the main show, he would bring out the chapter: *"Frankenstein"*, *"The Haunt"*, *"Grenda"*, + *"The Wolfman"* were led out onto the stage. Under the "hypnotic" control of the magician we made screaming and nonstop fun.

After a few minutes, he would lose control of the monsters and turn us kids to "fairy in your seats and not panic". Then, as would happen, the monsters staggered down into the crowd! As I watched *"Frankenstein"* pick up a little girl and carry her away screaming, they killed "the house lights"! Then, in total darkness, hideous creatures "ghosts" were flown around in circles above our theater wall, below we could never see the pure mayhem that ensued. Eventually, the lights came back on and we easily hurried out of the theatre, open, umbrella-like heaps of jaws, shouting our way from the blaring afternoon sunlight.

Sadly, whenever Fall got of fashion, and by the late sixties, the live shows practically vanished. It was probably just as well, for by this time I had "grown out" of monsters, melted marshmallows a week!... but those "scary monster" days shall be forever etched in my brain and continue to this day providing fond memories of an era that's no more...
—



A HORROR-HORDE OF
CRAWL-AND-CRUSH GIANTS
CLAWING UP FROM THE EARTH'S
MILE-DEEP CATACOMBS!



WARNER BROS. AMAZING NEW SENSATION!

'THEM!' JAMES ARNESS, LONNIE GREEN, JOHN WOOD, JAMES ARNESS

SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE -9-

THEM, THEM, THEM!

Article by Kent Daluga

The year is 1954 and the atomic monster invasion is just beginning. Warner Brothers blasts into the sci-fi game with giant atomic ants, also known to the world as THEM!

They hire veteran director Gordon Douglas, who has done such classics as *ZOMBIES ON BROADWAY* and the cool 60's flick *IN LIKE FLINT*. Also included in THEM is the all-star cast of: James Arness (*THE THING*), James Whitmore (*ASPHALT JUNGLE*), Onslow Stevens (*HOUSE OF DRACULA*), William Schallert (*MAN FROM PLANET X*), Fess Parker (*DAHLIEL BOONE, DAVY CROCKETT*), Edmund Gwenn (*MIRACLE ON 34th STREET*) and Leonard Nimoy (*STAR TREK*) in a bit part, sorry no pointy ears here.

Our story begins in the Alamogordo Desert in the southwest. An airplane in route to a nearby Air Force base, spots a small girl wandering aimlessly and reports it to the local police on patrol in the area. The cops, one is James Whitmore (Sgt. Peterson), pick up the girl who is in a state of shock. They search the area to find where she came from. They come to a trailer in the distance, it is empty but has been torn apart from within and sugar is scattered all over. In the wind there is a strange sound. The two cops pack up the girl and get the hell out there. They speed toward the nearest store, but this too has been demolished, the shop keeper dead and sugar all over. The strange sound is heard again...Peterson leaves to take the girl to the nearest hospital and leaves his partner behind to investigate the sound. He is attacked by a giant behemoth ant, 9 feet tall and 12 feet long. He empties his revolver, but to no avail.



The FBI is called in to find the cause of such strange sounds and destruction in the area. Enter James Arness as G-man Bob Graham. The autopsy of the shop keeper and the cop show signs of being crushed to death and pumped full of formic acid. (The giant ants perhaps? Read on...) Graham and Peterson go to the sites of the previous disasters and discover foot prints. These are sent to a specialist (Edmund Gwenn) Dr. Medford. He arrives the following morning with his daughter (not bad looking for a 50's sci-

fi heroine). The group go to the disaster area and Dr. Medford believes these giant ants are caused by atomic testing in the 40's (oh no, not atomic testing again). Elsewhere, the little girl who was in shock comes out of it and repeatedly screams the words, "THEM, THEM, THEM."

Back at the site, Dr. Medford's daughter is attacked by one of the giant ants. Peterson and Graham in a flurry of gun fire are able to kill it, but how many more are there? The strange sound is heard in the distance...



The Army is called in to find the nest, they find it and the area is littered with skeletons of other people who had the unpleasant experience of encountering THEM. The nest is bombed with phosphorous to heat the ground and cyanide gas is pumped into the tunnels. Medford's daughter, Peterson and Graham investigate the nest tunnels to find all the ants dead. But both Queen ants and their drones have flown away to search out a new nest (tough luck guys). The ants are located, thanks to the report from a flyer, Allan Crotty (Fess Parker) who says he saw four UFO's shaped like ants heading west toward Los Angeles. The report is

handed to a telex officer by Leonard Nimoy (his small bit part, don't blink or you'll miss it). The officer contacts Washington D.C. and the Office of the President. A secret meeting is called to decide what to do. Reports come in from Los Angeles of a rail car being emptied of 40 tons of sugar and the U.S.S. Viking being attacked at sea. One report is of a man and his two sons missing in the area of drainage tunnels running under all of Los Angeles. Peterson and Graham go to check out this report. They find the man dead, but where are the kids? (Continued on page 22)

THE
MONSTER
SQUAD

TAFF ENTERTAINMENT PICTURES/
KEITH BARISH PRODUCTIONS



The front cover of the press kit.

This 1987 movie begins with great lightning, a castle, a crypt, crawling creatures, and a bat hanging upside down that transforms into Count Dracula. A good atmospheric beginning that also has the credits in blood red type.

THE MONSTER SQUAD is one of those fun-type monster movies, reminiscent of ABBOTT & COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN, FRANKENSTEIN MEETS THE WOLFMAN and HOUSE OF FRANKENSTEIN to name a few. We don't get just two or three scary monsters to view, but we get a total of five!

The five monsters are Count Dracula (Duncan Regehr), Frankenstein (Tom

The Monsters and THE MONSTER SQUAD in a publicity photo. Back row, left to right: Tom Woodruff, Jr., Tom Noonan, Duncan Regehr, Michael MacKay, and Carl Thibault. Front row, left to right: Eugene (Michael Faustino), Horace (Brent Chalem), Sean (Andre Gower), Patrick (Robby Kiger), and Rudy (Ryan Lambert).



Noonan), Mummy (Michael MacKay), Gillman (Tom Woodruff, Jr.), and Wolfman (Carl Thibault). The monsters were created by Stan Winston who won an Oscar for Best Achievement in Visual Effects for his work on *ALIENS*. Other films he was involved in, include *GARGOYLES*, *HEARTBEATS*, *INVASERS FROM MARS*, *THE THING* and *STARMAN*. The visual effects were produced by Richard Edlund whose work includes *STAR WARS*, *THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK*, *RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK*, *RETURN OF THE JEDI*, *POLTERGEIST*, *GHOSTBUSTERS*, *THE OUTER LIMITS*, *TWILIGHT ZONE* and *STAR TREK*.

The film was directed and co-written by Fred Dekker. Fred confirms some of my feelings about the movie and explains its origins in the production notes.

"When I was a kid, I spent countless hours watching the *OUR GANG* comedies and those old horror movies with Frankenstein, The Wolfman and all the other monsters. And in the old days, you'd have films like *ABBOTT & COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN* that mixed two different genres. I started thinking it's a shame they don't do that anymore, you know, say *RAMBO MEETS GOZILLA*. So I played around with the concept of mixing kids with monsters and blending the two genres, comedy and horror, in the same movie and that's *THE MONSTER SQUAD*."

The other half of the writing team was Shane Black who wrote the screenplay for the hit film *LETHAL WEAPON*.

The monsters prepare to revive Frankenstein.







Rudy fights off three lovely vampires. (Above photo)
Phoebe (Ashley Bank) makes a friend. (Photo on left page)

THE MONSTER SQUAD is about a kids club devoted to monsters that is headquartered in a neat treehouse in a small town in America.

The kids find out there are real monsters on the prowl and become THE MONSTER SQUAD to combat the evil that Count Dracula and his monsters are trying to unleash on the world. The Squad consists of Sean (Andre Gower) the leader, Patrick (Robby Kieger) Sean's best friend, Horace (Brent Chalem), Eugene (Michael Faustino) and Rudy (Ryan Lambert). They join forces with the "Scary German Guy" (Leonardo Cimino) and Phoebe (Ashley Bank), Sean's little sister.

Are they able to stop the monsters and if so, how do they?
See this monster movie.
You won't regret it.



IMPORTANT
INFO #1:

Saguaro
(Sa-MWA-O)
is a species
of cactus found
only in central
and southern
Arizona and
small parts
of California
and Mexico.

This GIANT
cactus can
reach heights of
from 30 to 50 feet
and weigh up to
8 tons!

(Take notes and be
here next time for
more info and perhaps
a surprise quiz.)

INVASION of the

Created and written by
Art by Justin Humphreys



MAGAZINE Presents

II

he GIANT SAGUAROSTM

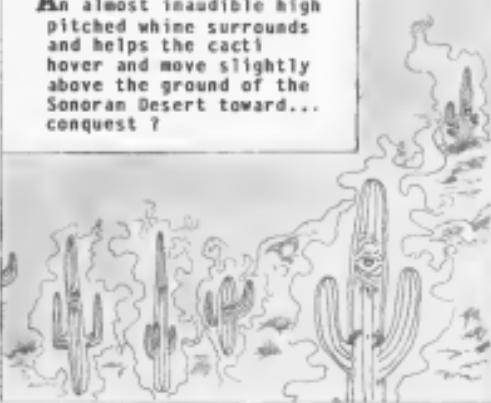
Chapt. 2

by Dennis Druktenis
Shreys

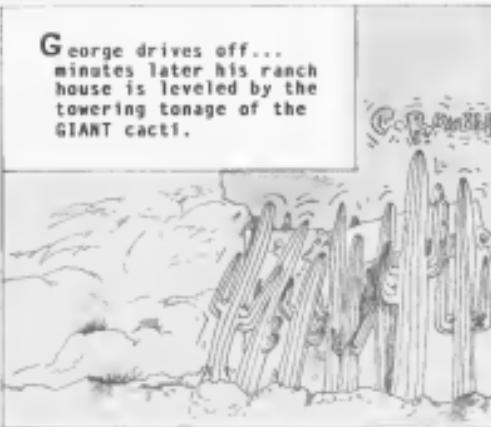
LAST
TIME:

"An
animated
alien
army
of 36
cactuses
(whichever
you
prefer)
began
heading
for a
nearby
ranch."

An almost inaudible high pitched whine surrounds and helps the cacti hover and move slightly above the ground of the Sonoran Desert toward... conquest?



George drives off... minutes later his ranch house is leveled by the towering tonnage of the GIANT cacti.



John Oolen and his wife Margaret from Dayton, Ohio are unfortunately camping at the Cactus Campgrounds near the ranch. They also bite the dust.



At the Double G Ghost Ranch, George Gila the owner is preparing to leave in his cherry 1952 pickup.



The Double G Ghost Ranch is engaged in Arizona's oldest industry, cattle. The ranch hands them the cattle are the next to be battered by the alien force and killed.



As the sun begins to rise, the GIANT SAGUARUS are back in their native soil and their newly acquired large eyes begin to close and the desert is quiet once again.



CONTINUED...



Sam Scare, our currently invisible SCARY MONSTERS mascot, invites you to guess this issue's SCARY SECRET PHOTO. Send your answers to Sam Scare c/o Dennis Oruktenis Publishing.



COMING IN THE TERRIFYING THIRD ISSUE:
THE ACKERMONSTER
(An interview with Forrest J Ackerman)
THE AMAZING COLOSSAL MAN
WAR OF THE COLOSSAL BEAST
SCARY MOVIE VIEW OF A.P.E.
INVASION OF THE GIANT SAGUAROS
Chapter 3
And many MORE SCARY SECRET SURPRISES!
SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE -19-



WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY
COLEMAN FRANCIS **ANTHONY CARDOSA**
PRODUCED BY
A CINEMA ASSOCIATES RELEASE

Article by KREGG SANDERS

It was Tor Johnson's last film, a silent movie with narration and dialogue added in post production. There were strangled women, a cameo by a rabbit, and the mystery surrounding a flag on the moon.

The film was of course, **THE BEAST OF YUCCA FLATS** (1961, Cinema Associates) a grade Z production from the late Director, Coleman Francis.

SYNOPSIS: Accomplished scientist Joseph Javorski (Tor Johnson) possesses the secret papers which reveal why

there is a flag on the moon. Spies, bent upon swiping the secret, force Javorski onto an Atomic test site. Naturally, an A-bomb is detonated, and the resulting fallout turns the hapless scientist into the Beast.

Elsewhere, two children stray into Javorski's hide-out, and the police begin a search for the missing kids. Javorski kidnaps a woman and then suddenly faints. The kids escape to the safety of their parents, and the police destroy the scientist for the good of mankind.

BUT HOW DID THAT FLAG GET ON THE MOON?

Tor Johnson had just finished Ed Wood's **NIGHT OF GHOULS** when he landed the double role of Javorski and The Beast. Johnson was no stranger to the role of lumbering monster though, having played similar characters in Wood's previous films, **PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE** and **BRIDE OF THE MONSTER**. His last gig was probably a guest stint on TV's **BONANZA**, in which he wrestled Hoss (Dan Blocker). The enormous Johnson (370 lbs.) died soon after his visit to the Ponderosa, and an acquaintance of mine who attended the funeral assures me that Tor went out in style. "Everything had to be custom made. The coffin, the burial robe, even the grave."

Director Coleman Francis appeared in **THIS ISLAND EARTH** and **KILLERS FROM SPACE**. His television credits include **DRAGNET** and **M-SQUAD**, among others. Francis went on to direct **NIGHT TRAIN TO MUNDO FINI** with John Carradine, who incredibly sang the theme song over the opening credits. Actor Conrad Brooks remembers Francis during his post filmmaking days.

"Coleman drank a lot in those days, and I saw him many times outside the Hollywood Ranch Market (a 24 hour super-



The Beast (Tor Johnson), once a respected Soviet scientist carries the girl to his cave to nibble on her hair.

market) looking for handouts. He was always busted. Just a tapped out drunk. He would talk about doing another feature, but he never directed again. I felt sorry for him, and I would try and help him out whenever I could. Maybe buy him a hotdog or whatever. He was really a mess before he died though, just down on his luck and in bad shape."

Speculation surrounds the death of Coleman Francis. Discovered in a parked car, reports claimed that a nylon tube was found to have been tied around the director's neck, leading some to suspect foul play. The official cause of death however is listed as heart failure, and the Medical Examiners report shows nothing to indicate otherwise. Producer Anthony Cardoza comments on the rumors and remembers Francis as "a very likeable guy" who had no real enemies. "Coleman wasn't murdered or anything like that, and I wonder who started these rumors. I know from my own experience that he wasn't always the easiest person to work with, but there wasn't anyone who would have reason to want the guy dead. We had our share of disagreements. He wanted to be in control of everything on the picture,



The Beast fights off the police in the thrilling climax of *THE BEAST OF YUCCA FLATS*.

and sometimes he would be hard to deal with. But Coleman had a temper, so I would try and avoid a confrontation with him if I could. It got to the point where I would see him coming and just go the other way. But that was on the set. Off the set he was a very likeable guy."

According to Brooks, the problems between the pair began when the production ran over budget and Cardoza stepped in to finish the picture.

"Coleman started the film, ran out of money, and was looking for someone to step in. Cardoza was young and really wanted that picture, and he came to me thinking that I would invest. I remember my people looked at his offer and said, 'No, you would just be putting good money on top of bad.' But he eventually got the money together and went in and finished it, which Coleman resented. He wanted to direct the rest of the picture and was looking for a silent partner, but I don't think he was managing the direction very well, and I think Cardoza knew that."

THE BEAST OF YUCCA FLATS continues

Viewers with short attention spans should avoid **THE BEAST OF YUCCA FLATS**, although there is something to be found in the way of a subplot. Voluptuous women are routinely strangled throughout the course of the film, and while these scenes bear little relation to the story, the women themselves are at least diverting. Cardoza claims that the inspiration for the scenes, (whatever it may have been), is unimportant.

"It was nothing more than a cheap second feature, the kind of picture that you gave the audience for free when they went to see the main attraction. We were just trying to fill a double bill, and it was never intended to be anything more than what it was."

That aside, the film did receive solo billing, primarily with the West Coast theater chains. Conrad Brooks, citing the popularity of cult film **PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE**, feels that someday audiences will come to regard **THE BEAST OF YUCCA FLATS** in much the same way.

"It had some interesting things in it, and it was unintentionally funny. I think they were fortunate to use Tor Johnson. He's famous for **PLAN 9** and that might help sell the picture to new audiences."

Cardoza holds the rights to the film, although he's not optimistic about it's release on home video (bootlegs do exist). "It was shot in black and white, and the public wants color today. I may put it out on video in a few years, but I doubt it. I don't think there's a market for it."

As for the cameo by the rabbit, it was never intended. Following the destruction of The Beast, Johnson was suddenly accosted by the rodent, who hopped onto the set and licked him.

(This article originally appeared in **WET PAINT** #26 without the photos and is copyright 1989, 1992 Kregg Sanders).

KREGG SANDERS is the author of **THE PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE COMPENDIUM**, forthcoming from McFarland & Company, Inc., and is at work on a number of other genre titles. The author may be reached at 21 South Griffin, Danville Illinois 61832.

THEM (Continued from page 11)

The Army is called in and the media is alerted of the giant ants. The city is put under military law and a curfew is set for dusk. Graham, Peterson and the Army search teams enter the tunnels. Peterson finds the boys alive, but is killed when an ant crushes him while they try to escape. The boys report to the others where the nest is located. Graham and the Army fire upon THEM with flame throwers and gun fire. They are all exterminated. The end of the atomic monsters, or just the beginning?

A true sci-fi classic that rates four scares. **THEM** was filmed in glorious black and white, ran 94 minutes and is available on video.

SPECIAL THANKS go to the following companies for their inspiration in producing this monster-piece.

AB-PT PICTURE CORP., AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL PICTURES, CARDOZA PRODUCTIONS, CHARLTON COMICS, KING BROTHERS PRODUCTIONS, MGM, TAFT ENTERTAINMENT PICTURES, UNIVERSAL CITY STUDIOS, INC., WARNER BROTHERS and WARREN PUBLISHING.



Dear SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE,

"Scary Monsters Lives"
"Scary Monsters Rule"
S.C. parts unknown

Debbie, I much enjoyed reading your magazine! I look forward to future issues.

SCARY MONSTERS Magazine

Hi Debbie!
I really liked SCARY MONSTERS Magazine #1. Could you please send me another copy?

Thank You,
GLORIA M. Monroeville, PA

Hi Debbie!
I found SCARY MONSTERS #1 very well put together and I'll be on the lookout for #2.

Elizabethtown, KY
TOM LARSON, Filmview Plus, #1.

Dear Debbie,

I have just purchased and read SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE #1. It was perfect. I am 11 years old and have grown up with 50's sci-fi movies and have never out-grown them. I loved SCARY MONSTERS and can't wait for the second issue. Keep up the Great work!

RONALD
TOM DANCEHORSE, Ontario, Canada

Dear Debbie,

Thanks for a great monster mag. SCARY MONSTERS brings back alot of previous issues. In the green cover issue on the little movies of the 50's, Mart L. Gordon's THE SPYROS is one of my favorites. I'd like to see more horror movies like that one, it must be there! Anyway, thanks for a great monster mag. Thank you.

Respectfully yours,
DAVID A. SCHNEIDER, Bexley, OH

Dear Debbie,

I love SCARY MONSTERS #1 and I think your editor did a great job in it! The cover was great and I like the closer paper stock you use for your magazine. The back cover was good too, especially with the green "The End" on it.

Keep up the good work and drag me a peek-
cease when SCARY MONSTERS #2 is ready. Keep
these 1950's Sci-Fi movies in the stories and
great illustrations. I think all you need
are stories on drive-in theaters across
America and perhaps one on the beautiful
horrorfests of our beloved 1950's movies like
Maria English, Yvette Vickers, Allison
 Hayes etc. etc.

John P. SULLIVAN, PA

Dear Scary Monsters,

Just wanted to say off I'd like to say your
magazine is really, really refreshing.

I've been waiting for a magazine like this
to come out for a while. I love the green
photos in it and the great information it
gives on those horrific classic movie mon-
ster movies. The magazine is a wonderful
collector's item.

JAY TUTT, Grosse Ile, MI

Dear "Chesterbie" of "Scary Monsters"! (alias known as Debbie Burkhardt)
Hello, and congrats! Your monster-mag
is an immediate (but tremendous) suc-
cess! This comes from a very experien-
ced monsterphile, and avidly collector,
(the monster-movie magazine, *MONSTER*!
The world's first premiere get-hor-
ror-pal-issimo. Deserves to receive an
awards of page posties...And I'm go-
ing to deliver just that. With great
gusto!

Please let me begin with the front
and work our way to the rear. (This is
for the first, as 16 is the procedure begins on
the exact opposite). The "Front" (Cover)
is everything I thought it would be.
Reinforced by the title, that "ca-
meron creature"! It is just the taste
of things to come. (And I really adore
my veggie!!) All in all, the cover de-
sign, and overall redesign, is totally
awesome, and eye-catching. A great task
will be ahead. I get even better at
the 2nd issue book!

With every passing page, the prose is
read to be quite nicely written, and
accomplished in an almost amazingly per-
fessional manner. When accompanied by
such mouth-watering pix, the formula has
no real choice in the matter at hand...
it must work. And work it certainly does.
The writing themselves are in-

credible to begin at, and would ensue
the most unshakable cyclope of
them all drool. (Look out Mr. Lovell!)
The back cover is a deadly element to this
edition's debut, and while it seems to
holler farewell, it is after telling us
that it is the last issue of the year
and that it is forever ever off of monsters
and other nightmares, anything at all is
possible...And I honestly feel that we
will be offered a doozy fair shake.
So, do I think that we will be lucky
enough to catch up on anyone "Scary
Monsters" is print? The class regly
would be a thorough, confident yes.
I am sure that the readers will be
that Debbie Burkhardt Publishing would
be cool and ready enough to let us down
on our horrific little hearts.

There will be much more to fol-
low, as I will not speak a bit. Hope
is just around the corner! To see it
all up the book is a giggleable winner,
and it most definitely deserves atop
the shelf of any monster collector.
It is a must have, and it is sure to be
at least a decade. No matter what the
true success materializes to become,
this is one felicitous monster who intends
to be in it for the haul. Keep thumbs
and leather up, because you are for-
tuning me the time and the space to let
loose with my reviews. (Who says mon-
sters can't be intelligent?)

As well as have with more reviews,
keep the page open. Take care, and
don't do anything I would. So long,
temporarily speaking!

Statistically yours: "The Horrific
Extraordinaire" AKA JEFF KURTIS

Irvington, NJ

Dear Debbie,

I enjoyed the premiere issue of SCARY MONSTERS; it's fun and lively. I look forward to your coverage of them, one of the greatest topics there is.

Please keep me on your mailing list,
and let me know when issue #2 is avail-
able.

Blissfully,

DAVID J. BOGAN, Arlington Heights, IL

Dear Debbie,
Congratulations on your wonderful new

magazine, SCARY MONSTERS. It is good
to find someone with such a passion
toward the genre; this is your maga-
zine's most endearing feature; we much
as to overcome the tedium of the week.

Your concentration on classics (good
and bad) does the past in a service-
able way. These are the stories valid
of this type since the decline of

MONSTER. FANGORIA covers these
genres from time to time but not with
such conscientiousness. There is a de-
finitive place for such a magazine. SCARY
MONSTERS could be that magazine once
you get your feet wet.

While your articles were generalizing
and appealing, they were short and a
bit fluff. Not much substance here I
am afraid. Covers just the bare nec-
essities. Your format and paper and
printing quality are great making the
mag difficult for anyone other than a
diligent collector to buy. Your issue #1
is a definite improvement. I hope issue #2
continues the upward progression. In fact
the overall quality of the magazine
feels more like a classic. (Which
could be more in your favor, in this
case.) However SCARY MONSTERS
needs to succeed in the greater one and
not just for the sake of the passage. Keep
that and you will undoubtedly win over
that reader and fan alike!

Good luck with your future issues.
Here is one horrof fan who will keep
an eye out for SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE!
Blissfully,

JONAH A. BLATTNER, Goshen, NY

Thanks to everyone who
wrote. AND A-----

Special thanks to ADAM HIGH of San Jose, Calif.
for the great artwork
at the top of this page.



CineModels/Monogram
Limited edition
Dracula model.



Reusable stickers.



Wolfman T-Shirt.

CLASSIC MONSTERS IN THE 90's

Monster products seemed to be more abundant in 1991 than they have been in many years. In our last issue we told you about the reissue of some of the Aurora monster models as part of the Monogram Luminators line of models. Well, there's a lot more collectible classic monster stuff available.

CineModels in association with Monogram has released a limited edition run of 5000 original Dracula models made by the original molds and in its original black plastic. The box features the same art as used for the 1983 glow release but without the reference to the "glow-in-the-dark" parts. "Unfortunately, the box art from the 1960's Aurora releases are no longer available," says CineModels, Inc. president, Andrew Eisenberg. The figures will be released one at a time with Frankenstein scheduled next, then Wolfman and The Mummy.

Just Toys has released a set of four six inch bendable Universal Monsters that include Dracula, Frankenstein, The Mummy and Wolfman. Horizon continues to offer their nicely done and inexpensive models of The Bride of Frankenstein, Dracula, The Invisible Man, Phantom of the Opera and Mole People. The only thing missing from these models was a nice base but that has been corrected by the production of some nice bases by other manufacturers. Uncle Milton offers the Marx figures from the 60's in glow material and on a blister card. These monster figures lack the detail of the originals but are fun just the same. Thirteen inch vinyl dolls from Hamilton of the Creature from the Black Lagoon, Dracula, Frankenstein and Wolfman should be out by press time.

For the monster fan who would like to wear his or her favorite monster close to their hearts, a series of black t-shirts featuring the Creature, Dracula, Frankenstein, Bride of Frankenstein and The Mummy hit the marketplace in the fall of last year. I even saw them for sale in Music Stores.

For the paper collector the amount of items available especially around Halloween seemed endless. Miller Beer had all kinds of displays and bar decorations. Pepsi 12 pack cases had nice full color drawings of Universal Monsters. Pepsi and Doritos had a monster money contest featuring half a bill in specially marked packages plus free monster stickers. Western Publishing offers two 8 1/2 x 11 puzzles of Frankenstein and Dracula, a coloring book, a sticker book and a paint and marker book. A six card set of the monsters was available at Halloween time in The Trading Card Treats from Impel. Imperial Toys brought us removable mon-

Nicole, the youngest fan of SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE says, "Look at all the new cool monster collectibles."



ster tattoos. Reusable foil stickers were available from Colorforms. Unique, Inc. has a line of party items with the new Look monster graphics that include paper hats, horns, paper plates, cups and napkins. Some other items include coffee mugs, tin waste cans and nice analog watches. On the video scene many of the classic movies were repackaged and made available for \$14.95.

It was truly a monster marketplace in 1991 and presented a challenge for the collector and fan to keep their eyes open and to find out what was available and purchase what they found and liked. Let us know what products you found and we'll update our list in a future issue.

THE BEGINNING?

The Scary Monsters Magazine Mini News Sheet Vol. 1 # 2

WINNERS OF SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE #1

SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE #1 was given away as a door prize at a recent HOSTALOGA & COLLECTIBLES SHOW held at company #1 Firehouse, Parma, OH, off Rt. 23 North in Wayne, OH, recently.

THE WINNERS WERE:

- ARMAND COSTANTINI of Russelton Park,
- MIKE MARSHALL of Wayne,
- ANOT VARGA of Clifton,
- MIKE FIEHN of Fenton Lakes,
- SAL ARISTRA of Paterson,
- GENE DAGSTRECKER of Middlefield,
- MIKE SPINO of Wayne,
- KENT CRABBE of Paterson,
- MIKE MARSHALL of Fenton Lakes and
- EDWARD COOK of Franklin.

Information for this show can be obtained from Phil Marinaro 221 Miller Rd., Wayne, OH 44107. You can be reached evenings at [216] 486-8211.

Phil says, "Again I'd like to thank you for the door prizes. They were great. All 80 can't wait for #2."

SON OF FAMOUS MONSTERS PRODUCT UPDATE



HAMILTON HORROR COMICS LINE IS DEAD

It appears that the ambitious HAMILTON COMICS line of black and white horror comic magazines is dead. According to the cancellation page in the Feb. 1992 issue of PREVIEWS published by Diamond Comic Distributors Inc., the following titles and issue numbers have been cancellied by the publisher: HAMILTON #1, HAM COLOR TALES #4 and 5, BRAVE TALES #2, BRAVE TALES #1 and BRAVE OF NIGHT IN COLOR #2.

VAMPIRELLA TO RETURN

Book #8 of the VAMPIRELLA Mini-Series from DARK PUBLICATIONS is scheduled to ship in April, thus ending the Mini-Series. A VAMPIRELLA SUMMER SPECIAL is scheduled for July with a monthly series beginning in September.

IT CONQUERS THE WORLD AGAIN

IT CONQUERS THE WORLD has returned as one of the "BRIEFLIN CLASSICS" on RICACOLUMBIA PICTURES HOME VIDEO. We even get the original theatrical trailer for MAC, RUM, SAWYER, IT CONQUERS THE WORLD, FEMALE ZOMBIE and I WAS A TEENAGE MONSTER before the main feature begins. Other movies released on the label include BLOOD OF GRACIELA, ZARTH VS. THE SPIDER, HOW TO MAKE A MONSTER and I WAS A TEENAGE FRANKENSTEIN. These high quality tapes retail for \$9.98 each. It's really too bad that they weren't released at the much more affordable price of \$9.95 or even \$9.90. At a lower price more people would be willing to purchase the tapes and add to their collections plus many new people would at least try one of these titles.

SCARY MONSTERS MAGAZINE REMEMBERS

It looks like 1992 is going to be another good year for fans of Forrest J Ackerman and FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND magazine. The first set of 45 FAMOUS MONSTERS magazine cover cards is scheduled to ship around Christmas followed by sets #2, #3, #4 and #5. Each card is reproduced on a FAMOUS MONSTERS card and is appraised at each card are the total set #110 number 225 cards. The ACKERMONTER'S CARDBASCARO sets also continue with sets #3 and #4 scheduled for release in April.

The FM CARDBASCARO and the FORREST J ACKERMAN FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND Book #2 did appear in 1991 and were definitely worth the wait. The ACKERMONTER'S CARDBASCARO is also included in the ACKERMONTER'S CARDBASCARO and Sci-Fi set of trading cards and the FM Cover Calendar. The FORREST J ACKERMAN'S REST OF SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY video is due out very soon.

But, the biggest question fans and subscribers are asking is, Where is MONSTERMANIA #2?

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL?

If you crave more information on The Sci-Fi Channel pick up the March issue of STARLOG #129. It features interesting information but still no firm on the air date.

GODZILLA VS. KING GHIDORA

A new GODZILLA movie is now playing in Tokyo and will arrive in America next year. The movie stars GODZILLA, KING OF THE MONSTERS and KING GHIDORA, a three-headed pterodactyl and is appropriately titled GODZILLA VS. KING GHIDORA. The plot involves time travel, Japan's economic success and of course a slug fest between the two monsters that destroys part of Tokyo.

GENE ROODENBERRY died at the age of 70 on Thursday, October 24th 1991. The man who took us, "where no man has gone before," will of course be forever remembered for creating STAR TREK.

IRWIN ALLEN died at the age of 75. He will be remembered for his science fiction TV programs, VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA, TIME TUNNEL, LAND OF THE GIANTS and LOST IN SPACE.

LARGE MONSTER SOURCE FROM SUPER STORIES
M&P
Preston & Parsons
TECHNICOLOR

LIKE NOTHING YOU'VE EVER SEEN BEFORE!

SEE GORGO

Challenge The
British Navy!
Destroy
Waterloo Bridge!
Topple The
Tower Of London!

UP FROM THE
OCEAN'S
DEPTHES
TO TERRORIZE
THE CITIES OF
THE WORLD.
NEITHER JETS,
MISSILES,
NOR ROCKETS
CAN HALT THE
HORROR OF
ITS REVENGE!

GORZILLA has ap-
peared in count-
less movies and
GORGO only in one.
The movie is a-
vailable on tape
from several dif-
ferent companies
usually for \$9.95
or less and de-
serves a place in
your monster mov-
ie library.

In addition to
starring in the
one movie, GORGO
starred in a Charl-
ton Comic that last-
ed 23 issues from
May 1961 to Sept.
1965. The monster
was featured on the
cover of FAMOUS MON-
STERS #11 and again
on #50. A paperback
book was also avail-
able during the mov-
ies release. Those
artist and craftsmen
from RESIN FROM THE
GRAVE, who produce
those great but ex-
pensive monster mod-
els have recently
come out with a cool
looking GORGO model.
The movie was released
in 1961 after two years
of filming in MGM's
Bristol Studios, the
Irish coast and the
streets of London. It
was an MGM release,
King Brothers pro-
duction presented in
technicolor, based on



BILL TRAVERS · WILLIAM SYLVESTER · Vincent Winter
Bruce Selby · Joseph O'Connor · Martin Benson · Barry Keegan
Doris Ward · Christopher Rhodes · JOHN LORING and DANIEL HURTT
DIRECTED BY ROBERT H. COOKE
PRODUCED BY
EUGENE LOURIE · FRANK KING and MAURICE KING

What was the strange
link between
a little boy
and this
terror
from the
deep?

TECHNICOLOR®

T H E A T R E

ASSOCIATE FEATURE

CAPTURED MONSTER BROUGHT TO LONDON



A fanatic prehistoric monster is captured and brought to London for exhibition in this scene from Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's suspenseful thrill-drama, "Gorgo," Bill Travers, William Sylvester and young Academy Award-winner Vincent Winter star in the King Brothers Production, filmed in Autamation and color.

SHE GO-25

Gorgo Met 3-D



A giant prehistoric monster on the rampage in London destroys the famous Bridge Tower and other London landmarks in search for its offspring, which has been captured for exhibition. This is one of the spectacular thrills in "Gorgo," King Brothers Production for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in Autamation and color. Bill Travers, William Sylvester and young Academy Award-winner Vincent Winter head the cast.

SHE GO-4

Gorgo Met 3-A



an original story by Eugene Lourie and Daniel Hyatt with the screenplay written by John Loring and Daniel Hyatt. "Two-time Academy Award-winner Tom Howard created the remarkable special effects for the picture. The life-like monsters were made of foam rubber, fibre glass and hundreds of ingenious mechanisms. They breathed, cried, moved eyes, mouth limb and tail, and during location scenes filmed on the streets of London caused a sensation to say nothing of traffic jams," says the pressbook.

The story involves the discovery and capture of GORGONIA by Joe Ryan (Bill Travers) and Sam Slade (William Sylvester). The monster then is taken to London, along with a young orphan, Sean (Vincent Winter) who has become their friend. Shortly after GORGONIA arrives in London to be displayed in the Dorkin Circus, it is discovered that GORGONIA is a baby! Needless to say, mama GORGONIA makes her way to London to end the film with a bang.



GORGONIA model by Resin From The Grave.



GORGO comic book #12 dated April 1963.



Monarch paperback book.

Interesting info for you monsters who like to read sideways! After much research, the sound of Gorgo's voice was created by the sound of four jet planes bouncing through a tunnel.



Famous Monsters of Filmland #11 dated April 1961.

THE BIG ONE!



It was suggested that the ad pictured above be reproduced and used as a promotional bookmark.

NEW THRILLS!
NEW SHOCKS!
NEW TERROR!

"Beginning OF THE END"

PETER GRAVES
PEGGIE CASTLE
MORRIS ANKRUM



Produced and Directed by DERT L. GORDON • Screen Play by Fred M.纸上谈兵 and Lester Gorn • An AIP Picture • Distributed by Republic Pictures Corporation